REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-29 are pending. Non-elected claims 6-29 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 30 has been added, and is supported at page 7 of the specification, for example.

Applicants appreciate the courtesy of the Examiner in discussing this application with the undersigned on May 31, 2007. The points raised at the interview are included in the remarks that follow.

The sole substantive issue in the Office Action is the rejection of claims 1-5 as anticipated by or obvious over Hobson. The body of the rejection also refers to Yamamura as evidence supporting the rejection. Applicants respectfully suggest that the use of Yamamura is sufficient for the reference to included in the formal statement of the rejection. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection, whether characterized as being over Hobson alone, or Hobson in view of Yamamura.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection's assertion that Hobson discloses a winding body wound into a plate shape. Hobson is directed to a system for depositing the materials for a battery on a web-like substrate. The sectional views of Figs. 2 and 3 illustrate structures that, for the purposes of this Amendment alone, might be conceded to be "plate shaped". However, Figs. 2 and 3 are not showing the structure of a final wound product, but instead are showing the structure of the substrate as it is formed. See the sectional lines 2-2 in Fig. 1 (Fig. 3 is described as a fragmentary perspective view of Fig. 2 in the Brief Description of the Drawings). Hobson contemplates that the wound product to be used for a battery in fact is cylindrical, as seen in Figs. 5-7 of the reference.

Claim 1 requires a band-shaped laminate that is wound in a plate shape. The layer order of the materials is specified, and the flexible elongated substrate of the laminate is placed inside in the winding. Forming the winding in a plate shape is desirable, as this allows the structure to have a relatively thin profile while providing the desired battery capacity. Such a structure has small radii of curvature at its sides, which can cause problems of bending stress that can result in short circuits. The layering structure of claim 1 has been found to alleviate these problems. See the experimental results discussed beginning at page 15 of the specification.

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Hobson does not disclose the plate shaped structure required by claim 1, nor does it provide any reasonable basis to modify its structure to meet that required by claim 1, nor to expect the advantages that are obtained therefrom. Therefore, Hobson neither disclosed nor suggests claim 1 and the rejection should be withdrawn. Yamamura discloses a cylindrical battery and thus does not remedy the deficiencies of Hobson. Moreover, Yamamura is not directed to a product using a solid electrolyte and therefore is even further removed from claim 1. Applicants are not conceding the relevance of the references to the features of the dependent claims.

In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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